CHARIVARIA.

SIR EDWARD GREY declared at Darlington that he saw no need for war. Unfortunately, however, this is a great age for luxuries.

The feeling that there will be a satisfactory outcome of the Conference mistic. He has issued instructions to at the Coronation, as though there had Pease party-is as beautiful as ever. never been any talk of

their abolition.

Hanover Chapel, Peckham, at which Mr. LLOYD GEORGE has promised to deliver a farewell speech, is to be converted into a cinematograph theatre. We greatly hope that no such fate will befall the City Temple.

By the way, is not the Rev. R. J. Campbell really a little bit hard on his friend Mr. LLOYD GEORGE? He writes to The Morning Post to deny that the recent function at the City Temple had a political object. "Had the Press reported any other speaker than Mr. LLOYD GEORGE, Mr. CAMPBELL goes on to say, "this would have been perfectly clear."

Diamonds are now 30 per cent. dearer than they were in 1908; and a lady writes to us from Park Lane to point out that this is one more example of how, under the present Government, the price of necessities continues to rise.

that this letter will not become an annual occurrence.

French strike. The imitation was excellent, even down to the fiasco.

LANCASTER, speaking at the Manchester refuse to dress their shop windows at Reform Club, said that he was delighted all, leaving them in a state of absolute to see the announcement that Germany nudity. The police would then have was not only not accelerating her naval to deal with the case. programme, but rather retarding it; and he trusted that might be a preliminary step towards a reduction of armaments throughout the world, the custom for lower boys and others grows in strength every day. The Seeing that the delay is to enable our who have no important position in the EARL MARSHAL is among the most optiformidable engines of destruction, Mr. and to watch field matches in top hats the Peers as to what they are to wear Pease's faith-and that of the whole

Golf Maniac. "AND PRAY, SIR, WHAT MAY YOUR FAVOURITE RECREA-TION BE ?

Hypochondriac. "Indigestion."

According to The Times the projects kneeling assistant. We cannot help for the London Memorial to King thinking that the kneeling assistant Mr. Henniker Heaton has addressed Edward have now been reduced to is also something of a hero. a letter to the Postmaster-General, two-a proposal by Lord Avebury for setting forth sixty-two grievances a central building for the University of against the present system—one for London, and a scheme, supported by each year of the tireless reformer's Lord Esher, for the erection of a membership of the choir of St. Mary's, life. We understand that, while the museum of antiquities. We do hope POSTMASTER-GENERAL hopes that Mr. that our love of compromise will not make a similar boast? HEATON may live to be 100, he trusts lead to the establishment of a University with nothing but antiques on the

The recent railway riots in Cairo, it transpires, were organised by the Henry's having refused police assis-Nationalist leaders in imitation of the tance to shop-keepers whose windows a crowd, a number of tradesmen, it is to search for the others at once.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE DUCHY OF said, intend, by way of protest, to

"Since when," asks a writer in the Eton College Chronicle, "has it been . . . in a way that would never have been tolerated a few years ago?"

Tut! tut! This must be stopped.

At a recent dinner the tale was told of the Warwickshire yokel who, upon being asked if he knew what Shakspeare wrote for, replied that he thought he "wrote for the Bible." Curiously enough, BEN JONSON said of BACON, "He has filled all Numbers."

Sir JAMES MURRAY, of the Oxford English Dictionary, has been telling us how he had to write to various authors to ascertain the meaning of certain words they had used. It is rumoured that one of them replied that he had been relying on the Dictionary to tell him.

In connection with the retirement of Squadron-Corporal-Major EGGLE-TON, of the Royal Horse Guards, a contemporary mentions that one of this champion swordsman's most sensational feats is to cut in two an apple resting on the neck of a

Mr. FREDERICK MOORE, we are told. Stafford. How many choir-boys can

The statement that each person in the United Kingdom receives sixty letters a year is, we hear, causing some trouble to the Postmaster-General.
An old lady writes complaining that during the past twelve months she are so attractively dressed as to draw received only 58, and would like him

IN MEMORIAM.

William Agnety.

DIED. OCTOBER 31, 1910. BORN, 1825.

Long had we missed you from your wonted place, Missed from our Table what we held most dear, The warm hand's lingering clasp, the kindly face, The voice of genial cheer.

Now Death brings back the touch of filial ties, The grace that set our younger hearts at ease. The hours together under summer skies, Afloat on summer seas.

For so we knew you, host and gentle friend; And still you kept, by absence unestranged. Through age and weakness, even to the end, The charm that never changed.

But who shall say what closer memory clings About the home where grief to-day is guest Now you are gone who loved all lovely things, 08 But children's love the best?

THE death of WILLIAM AGNEW leaves a void in an exceptionally wide circle of friends and of acquaintances made in divers avenues of life. The loss is most acutely felt round the "Old Mahogany Tree" where for more than thirty years the genial presence of William Agnew beamed from the end of the table facing the editor's chair. Among his guests at the Round Table during the greater part of the time were TENNIEL, DU MAURIER, CHARLES KEENE and LINLEY SAMBOURNE, whose footsteps towards the silent land WILLIAM AGNEW followed at so brief an interval. Of the literary staff were Frank Burnand, whose name is imperishably connected with Punch; MILLIKEN, the prolific versifier; gentle GIL A'BECKETT, his brother Arthur, "Toby, M.P.," and the Professor, relic of an earlier age, for awhile right-hand man of SHIRLEY BROOKS during his editorship. Of these only one now fills his accustomed chair. But many other members with the host whose loss we mourn to-day.

WILLIAM AGNEW had a dual character, each side strongly marked. He was an exceedingly shrewd man of business, and, withal, he had the gentleness, in some aspects the simplicity, of a little child. No patron of the arts in modern times has exceeded his range. Among his trouvailles was the wondrous boy, FRED WALKER, who, like CHATTERTON, died too soon. He was loth to part with some of the treasures purchased from the young painter. They hang to-day on the walls of his darkened house. It was characteristic of his generosity that seventeen years ago he presented to the National Gallery one of the best, "The Harbour of Refuge."

Picture buying and selling was his business, and he did it with an unstinted devotion. Nothing delighted him more than to induce others to share the pleasure with which he looked at a masterpiece. One of the prettiest sights of the London season in days gone by was to see him personally conducting his old friend Mr. GLADSTONE through to the dicta of the master of an art other than politics.

But better than pictures William Agnew loved children. loveliest of us have a defect somewhere,

It was delightful to see him with a brood of grandchildren at his knee. Their company compensated for, and brought forgetfulness of, any worries of business or any signs of failing health that might beset him. His love of little ones was not confined to the circle of his own family. He went further afield, taking to his arms waifs and strays homed in the Children's Hospital at Manchester, and in the other in Great Ormond Street, London. Of one he was President, of the other Vice-President; to the funds of both a liberal contributor.

From early manhood he took a strong interest in politics, serving for many years as President of the Salford Liberal Association and of the Manchester Reform Club. When the rising tide brought Mr. GLADSTONE back to power in 1880. WILLIAM AGNEW came in on the crest of the wave, winning a seat in South-East Lancashire. In 1885 he was returned for the Stretford Division of the county. When in the following year Mr. GLADSTONE nailed the Home Rule flag to the Liberal masthead, the Member for Stretford, with hundreds of other Liberal Members, had to decide the momentous question-should they serve under it? WILLIAM AGNEW was not the man to desert what he regarded as a just cause, more especially when it was advocated by an old leader. He declared for Home Rule. was beaten at the poll, and never more sat in the House of Commons. Tardy recognition of political and public service was rendered when in 1895 he was created a Baronet.

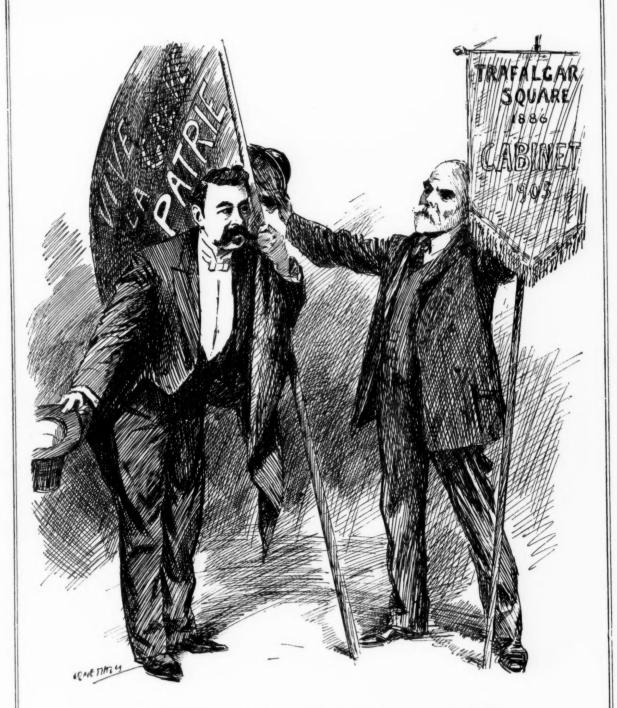
His long life, for the greater part absorbed with strenuous labour, had in it comparatively little of sorrow. It was darkened by the death of the sweet and gracious lady who for more than 40 years was the companion and light of his home. But he was happy and fortunate in the legacy of her children. For some years he dwelt in retirement, taking pleasure in his yacht and his pictures, and

an abiding interest in public affairs.

After a few days' illness death came to him gently. He passed away without pain—a tired body settling itself to sleep. He was dowered with all that should accompany old age, as honour, love, obedience, troops of friends.

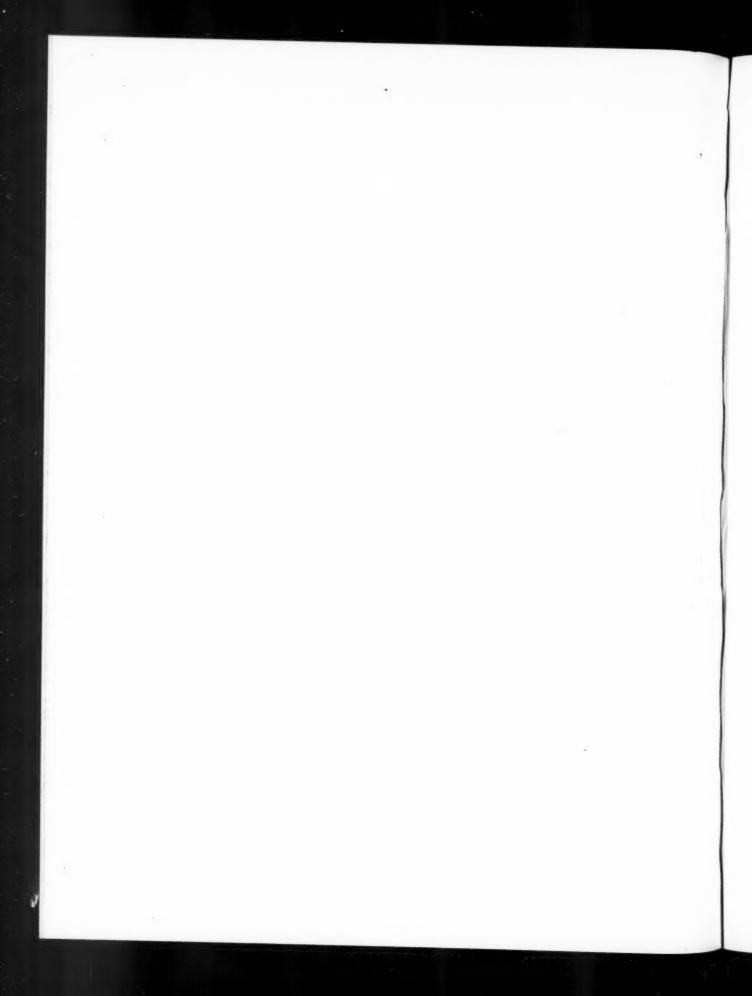
THE TRUE ARISTOCRATS.

THERE is not, I believe, an illustrated Debrett, and, thereof the present staff sat for shorter periods at the Table fore, one does not know what peers look like: one has no opportunity of passing them all in review and acquiring a composite concept. This surely is an omission, although as to whether it is better for the chances of the House of Lords, or worse, I would not care to hazard an opinion. But, although Debrett and the camera fail us among the salt of our own kind, Miss L. C. SMYTHE and the camera show no such timidity with the salt of another kind; and the result is that in a little shilling book called The Pekingese which has wandered my way I am provided with a portrait gallery of lazy, insolent, capricious, imperious noblemen and noblewomen, beside which the sons of a thousand kings would appear anxious and plebeian. Page after page it is the same: always the commanding superciliousness of the patrician. Now and superlatively well; but he also loved art for its own sake then it rises to a superb and almost terrifying height, as in Champion Chu-ërh of Alderbourne, and Champion Broadcak Beetle, and Heitzu of Tisbury, and Garnons Luchu, and Tuan of Blacklands, and Peiching Pu-yi, and Nan-Tye of Newnham, and Como Muh Sing, and Puck of Alderbourne, and Champion Chin Lu, and Cupid of Eppingdale. the rooms of the Royal Academy on the morning of the These, one instinctively feels, are tyrants one and all. Private View Day, the great statesman listening attentively Their moods are law. No such array of mere men and women could be possible; for even the handsomest and



ANOTHER GOOD MAN GONE RIGHT.

MR. JOHN BURNS (to the FRENCH PREMIER). "BRAVO, BRIAND! A MAN AFTER MY OWN HEART!"





Miss Smith. "Now, Madge, tell me, which would you rather be—pretty or good?"

Madge (promptly). "I would rather be pretty, Miss Smith; I can easily be good whenever I like to try."

THE SPARROW.

Let others from the feathered brood Which through the garden seeks its food Pick out for a commending word Each one his own peculiar bird; Hail the plump tit, or fitly sing The finch's crest and flashing wing; Exalt the rook's black satin dress-coat, The thrush's speckled fancy waistcoat; Or praise the robin, meek but sly, For breast and tail and friendly eye-These have their place within my heart; The sparrow owns the larger part, And, for no virtues, rules in it, My reckless cheerful favourite! Friend sparrow, let the world contemn Your ways and make a mock of them, And dub you, if it has a mind, Low, quarrelsome, and unrefined; And let it, if it will, pursue With harsh abuse the troops of you Who through the orchard and the field Their busy bills in mischief wield; Who strip the tilth and bare the tree, And make the gardener's face to be

Expressive of the words he could, But must not, utter, though he would (For gardeners still, where'er they go, Whate'er they do, in weal or woe, Through every chance of life retain Their ancient Puritanic strain; Tried by the weather they control Each day their angry human soul, And, by the sparrow teased, may tear Their careworn locks, but never swear). Let us admit-alas, 'tis true-You are not adequately few; That half your little life is spent In furious strife or argument; Still, though your wickedness must harrow All feeling souls, I love my sparrow; Still, though I oft and gravely doubt you, I really could not do without you. Your pluck, your wit, your nonchalance, Your cheerful confidence in chance, Your darting flight, your bouts of play, Your chirp, so sociable and gay— These, and no beauty soft or striking, Make up your passport to my liking; And for your faults I'll still defend you, My little sparrow, and befriend you.

MUSIC AND MUSCLE.

THE interesting information about Mr. Coates's physical strength communicated to the public by the Press agent of the Beecham Opera Company,

ductors now vie with each other in their devotion to field sports and athletic pastimes.

Mr. Coates's speciality is that of weight-lifting. In the last Act of Tiefland he shoulders the heroine and starts off for the mountains at the double. But this is nothing to what Mr. Coates can do when pressed. On one occasion, when Mr. MARK HAMBOURG was playing the pianoforte in his house. Mr. Coates, in a fit of absent-mindedness, seized the instrument by the left hind leg and lifted it seven feet into the air. The extraordinary part of the performance, however, was that Mr. MARK HAM-BOURG, by a supreme act of unconscious levitation, went on playing all the time until his Herculean host had lowered the pianoforte to its pristine position.

M. PADEREWSKI is addicted to punching the ball, pole jumping, and high diving. Sir FREDERICK BRIDGE can throw a fly further than any other Mus. Doc. within the four seas-no small achievement as any one who has

cricket player, and on one occasion hit one portion being caught by cover-point, twenty feet off. while the other went to the boundary. The umpire, when appealed to, was so bewildered that he called "no ball," and shortly afterwards went into the men is Mr. Max Bamberger. From wine trade.

has taken to tossing the caber and tain Mr. BAMBERGER'S suit for his may sometimes be seen practising in daughter's hand, the intrepid violinist It doesn't work out to so much as we Kensington Gardens with this formid- challenged him to a duel with cavalry should have expected.

has opened the eyes of many un honorary signaller to the Cossacks of terrorists in Nijni Novgorod, he has thinking persons who have hitherto the Ukraine during their manœuvres swum the rapids at Niagara, he has confounded art with effeminacy. As a in the Caucasus. Mr. Wood also excels ridden snapping turtles in the swamps matter of fact, the day of the weakling in Græco-Roman wrestling, ski-ing, of Florida, and been interviewed by virtuoso is long past, and singers, and throwing the hammer. On one Mr. RAYMOND BLATHWAYT. instrumentalists, composers and con-memorable occasion, when a refractory

THE COMMERCIAL "WE."

"CAN I SEE MR. DOODLE, PLEASE!"

"WE PARTED WITH ME, DOODLE THREE WEEKS AGO, SIE."

able implement, or skimming across sabres, disarmed him at the first enthe Round Pond in his hydroplane. counter, and secured his consent to the Mr. Henry Wood attributes his success marriage before leaving the field of as a conductor largely to his proficiency honour. Since then he has wrestled in "flag-wagging," which dates back to the time when he was attached as he has fought single-handed with twenty

> Strength, again, is admirably represented on the spindle side of the profession. Madame MELBA, who spent her early years in the bush, acquired a skill in throwing the boomerang which has on more than one occasion stood her in good stead. Thus, when she was once singing at Buenos Ayres a troublesome gaucho indulged in cat-calls in the gallery. The officials had tried in vain to silence or remove him. At last Madame MELBA begged to be allowed to deal with him herself, and with one beautifully aimed shot, which struck the offender full on the nose, completely saved the situation. As the gaucho afterwards observed in the picturesque dialect of his kind: "It was the finest slosh on the gob I ever got."

Miss MAGGIE TEYT, whose brilliant success on the Lyric boards has been one of the outstanding features of the autumn season, is also an athlete of no mean powers. At golf her handicap is

$$HO^2 \times \frac{y-4}{\phi+\beta}$$

Sir Hubert Parry was a redoubtable he seized the rebel by the scruff of the driven the Grand Duke MICHAEL. neck and hurled him clean through the She has also invented a new club called the ball so hard that it broke in two, bass drum, which was standing some the Mashie-Bazouk, which is invalu-

It is perhaps needless to remark that the strongest of all our musical strong earliest childhood he was famed for his Sir Charles Stanford of late years Pompey Macmurdo declined to enter-

tried it will readily admit. In his youth | violin player refused to obey his orders, | and she has already frequently outable in dislodging the ball from foggy

> "With regard to additional school accomwith regard to additional school accommodation, the Education Committee recommend a scheme by which the total number of school places will be increased by 12,653. On the basis of £30 per place, this will involve a capital expenditure of £30."—Morning Leader.



Breuthless Urchin. "You're-wanted-dahn-our-court-and being a hame'lance!" Policeman. "What do you want the ambulance for?" Urchin. "MUVVER'S FOUND THE LIDY WOT PINCHED OUR DOORMAT!"

THE WORM THAT TURNED.

A MAN like the Reverend Percival Hayward ought not to be allowed to exist, not at least without a licence. Every time he produces one of his mathematical problems at the dinnertable the licence ought to be endorsed, and when the licence has been endorsed three times it ought to be cancelled, and the Reverend Percival Hayward cancelled with it. As it is, in the present lax state of the law, he is allowed to run about loose, inflicting grievous mental harm among his fellowmen. It is only every now and then

that he is baffled by people like George.
"It is very odd," he began his last offence, "it is very odd how deceptive figures are."

"We will take your word for that," I answered. "Get along with the problem you want us to guess wrong about."

"Take, for instance," he continued, unabashed, "the case of the worm and the four volumes of the Encyclopædia the ship for a ha'p'orth of tar," said I, placed side by side. There were five recklessly; "I guess two million."

hundred pages in each volume, and the worm besides in Volume I.'

"A sort of bonus for the purchaser," suggested Henry, "instead of the usual five per cent. discount for cash?"
"The worm started at page 1 of

Volume I., took its time and worked through to page 500 of Volume IV. There it stopped. How many pages in all did the worm pass through

There was a short interval of silent and dark suspicion, while we engaged in rapid calculations.

"Four times five hundred is two thousand," said Henry, gazing at the Reverend Percival Hayward with distrust. "You want us to guess two thousand. Obviously it was two thousand, but we are not going to guess that. Try twenty."

The Reverend Percival turned to me, a little disappointed. "It was not two thousand," he said, as one who has a

grievance, "but to say twenty is absurd."

I took my turn. "Don't let's spoil

The searcher for information turned away in disgust. "It is your turn, George," he muttered, "and you, at any rate, have reached years of discretion. What do you think about it?"

"You say there were four volumes?"

"Yes," answered the Reverend Percival, brightening a little.

"And five hundred pages in each?"

"Yes.

George stared stolidly and solemnly at him and gave the matter full consideat last, "I don't believe the worm ever did it." ration. "For my part," he announced

"With this book Mr. Forster seems to us to have arrived, and, if he never writes another line, his niche should be secure."—The Standard. We hope Mr. Forster will go on writing, and risk it.

"This afternoon the semi-finals were played off and proved somewhat disappointing, both the winners securing victories."—The Englishman. Yes, one expects something less commonplace than that.

SIC.

NOT TO SAY "AD NAUSEAM."

(Being extracts from to-morrow's issue.) Foreign News.

THE invasion of Germany by the allied forces of Montenegro and Iceland commenced yesterday, the negotiations for peace, which, it will be remembered, were all but brought to a successful conclusion on lines drawn up by The Daily Mail, having suddenly broken The Commander-in-Chief of down.

the allied armies telegraphs to The Daily Mail:

"DAILY MAIL, London: We advance on Berlin to-night. The spirit of the troops is excellent, and they are much encouraged by the interest which The Daily Mail is taking in their cause."

In Berlin equal enthusiasm prevails. Asked for a message to The Daily Mail,

the Kaiser said :-

"The men are eagerly reading the Continental Edition of The Daily Mail for news of the enemy. Germany will not disappoint The Daily Mail."

The Daily Mail will publish a special mid-day edition, while the war lasts, containing the daily messages from the opposing generals, kings, foreign secretaries, chancellors, etc., etc., to The Daily Mail.

The revolution in China was successfully accomplished yesterday morning, as forecasted in The Daily Mail on Monday last, and recorded in the later editions of The Daily Mail of Wednesday. The President of the new republic cables to The Daily Mail:-

"DAILY MAIL, London.-I rejoice to announce to the world through The Daily Mail the final triumph of liberty and justice in my country. The Daily Mail has always been the friend of China, and the new China is grateful to it to-day.'

A long message from the exiled emperor to The Daily Mail is unfortunately crowded out, but will appear in to-morrow's Daily Mail.

The Daily Mail's great feat of announcing the accession of King George to all the rulers of the Great Powers simultaneously is still talked of in diplomatic circles. The Daily Mail cable, it will be remembered, ran thus:

"The Daily Mail has the honour to inform you on behalf of English people of accession of his Majesty King

GEORGE V.—DAILY MAIL.

The Daily Mail's message forestalled by many weeks the official announcements to the different courts, and was but one more instance of the prominent part played by the press (represented)

modern politics.

THE COLONIES.

The opening of the first parliament in the Straits Settlements was performed yesterday amid manifestations of intense loyalty; expressions of gratitude to The Daily Mail, which had insisted on this form of government, being heard on every hand. The ceremony was a simple one, messages to The Daily Mail from all the Ministers being read, and the parliament being then declared open.

The Daily Mail has received official notification from the Colonial Office of the resignation of a certain well-known Governor, and the name of his successor. The Daily Mail refuses at all times to circulate rumours lacking definite confirmation, and this particular rumour seems to be altogether without foundation, no messages to The Daily Mail having come through to The Daily Mail office from either the Governor or his alleged successor.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

The marriage between Sir Julius Bupp and Lady Mary Milberry was solemnised yesterday at St. George's, Hanover Square, before a large and fashionable congregation. Asked during the service for a message to The Daily Mail the bride said: "I think it is going off splendidly." The clergyman who The clergyman officiated, the bridegroom, and the best man also added a few words for publication in The Daily Mail.

A son was born to the Countess of Pimlico last night at Cadogan Square. Up to the time of going to press no message to The Daily Mail had been received from either the future earl or his mother.

SCIENCE.

Communication with Mars has at last been established, Professor Onoto the fair workers in the cause of woman's getting the first message through shortly after three o'clock, before a large company, including the representative of The Daily Mail. opening message was one of greeting from The Daily Mail, as representing this planet, to the inhabitants of Mars, and ran thus :-

"DAILY MAIL, London, to Mars: The Daily Mail sends greeting from Earth to Mars.—Daily Mail."

It is anticipated that this message from The Daily Mail will be posted on the banks of all the canals throughout the planet.

NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES.

The Great Earwig War in East before, is a wonderful thing.

in this case by The Daily Mail) in Sussex, to which The Daily Mail was the first to give prominence, is arousing such widespread interest that The Daily Mail has telegraphed to some five hundred well-known people, asking for their views on the advisability of instituting a similar campaign against other noxious animals. We print some of their replies to The Daily Mail:-

> "Think Daily Mail's suggestion very good.—Selfridge.

> "The Daily Mail's suggestion is most valuable.—Gamage."

"I am entirely with The Daily Mail in this matter.—Sandow.'

Other replies to The Daily Mail from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the First Sea Lord, the Lord Chamberlain, the President of the Royal Academy, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and several royalties are unfortunately crowded out.

STOP PRESS NEWS.

An extraordinary case is reported from Hertfordshire this morning. A representative of The Daily Mail called upon a gentleman, who shall remain nameless (though he has a certain reputation as a writer), and asked him for a message to The Daily Mail in regard to his forthcoming book. He replied that he would be - that, in fact, he had no message to give The Daily Mail; that (as far as our representative could make out) he did not like The Daily Mail; that he could get on perfectly well without The Daily Mail; and that if ever he did want to communicate with the world through the press he would avail himself of the columns of some other paper than The Daily Mail. His relatives are extremely anxious about his condition, and a mental specialist has been summoned.

A. A. M.

The Dundee Courier informs us that "at a recent Suffragette social one of freedom was heard to remark :- 'You see, I cannot speak in public . . . But I always go out at night when a meeting is about to be held and chalk notices on the pavement with my husband." It seems a clumsy way. Why not do it with an ordinary piece of chalk?

"To-night an exhibition of hand-bell ringing . . . will take the place of the usual Happy Evenings for the People."—Irish Times. Bad luck.

"But there was that in human nature which brought men together when they met.' Leverpool Daily Post.

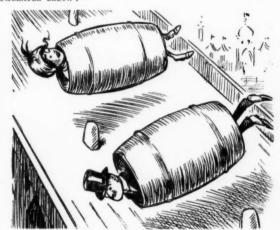
Human nature, as we have often said

THE PROMISE OF MAY (1911).

WE HEAR THAT, IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE GREAT SUCCESS AT SHEPHERD'S BUSH OF THE WIGGLE-WOGGLE, LITTLE CYCLONE, AND OTHER DEVICES FOR PRODUCING ACUTE PHYSICAL ENJOYMENT, WE MAY EXPECT AT NEXT YEAR'S EXHIBITION THE KIND OF ENTERTAINMENT ADUMBRATED BELOW:—



ARRIVAL OF PLEASURE-SEEKERS.



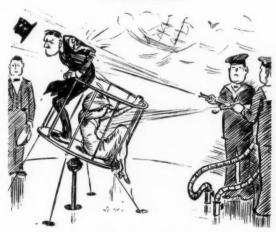
THE ROLEY-POLEY.



ТНЕ ИМРТУ-ВИМРТУ



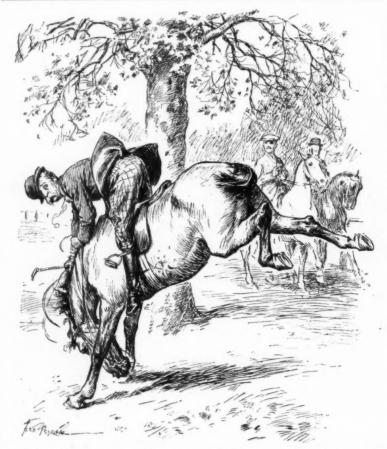
THE TWIELEY-WHIELEY.



THE SEA-BLIZZARD.



DEPARTURE OF PLEASURE-SEEKERS.



Mr. Marguriae (on hired mount, riding in spurs for the first time, soliloquises). **I Tresume this animal 'asn't never been bidden by a gentleman before."

THE OLD G.P.O.

St. Martins-le-Grand stands deso-

I love the old place, for I've done business there for many years. I remember once being greatly touched when an official behind the counterwhether by accident or not, I cannot say—said "Thank you!" to me. From from one of our great dailies for a little and that was on the former of the press, so I have no grievance. two occasions I have mentioned.

we always get our provisions from the heartache than by postal order?

Stores, we always get our stamps and postal orders from the General Post Office. As my wife has so truly put it, when talking of this rule of ours, "the best is good enough for us.

It is natural to feel more confidence in dealing with headquarters than with branches, and the trust I have placed in the G.P.O. has rarely been betrayed. the day, in my early boyhood, when I How prompt and accurate they are asked at the counter for a free supply there. MSS. posted at the G.P.O., of stamp-edging (of which I was a keen I find, come back with astonishing collector at the time) to only last celerity. True, a letter I posted in '86 Thursday, when I cashed a postal to a friend in Brussels was delivered order for 3s. 6d., which I had received in November, 1908, to a person of similar name in Aberdeen; but I do not effort from my pen, I have only once complain of that. I made £1 2s. 7d. failed to obtain there what I asked for, by paragraphing the incident for the

I shall not feel so happy in the new In my early years I learnt that one building, I know. If my friends do not could always rely on obtaining one's hear from me very often in future, I postage stamps quite fresh at St. hope they will understand. And will They may explain to Mrs. Thompson Martins-le-Grand, and the flavour of editors kindly note that payment by the gum was superior; and, just as cheque will henceforth give me less

THE CALL.

How nobly on that pious afternoon I started forth, how splendidly arrayed!

In silken hat and patent leather shoon, And creases sharp on either pantaloon, And robe befringed with braid,

To call on Mrs. Thompson, 92 Carnaryon Terrace (terraces be blowed!);

I happened on a bus of pleasing hue, And travelling on its top admired the

And reached-Carnaryon Road.

There first of all a faint forgetfulness (Born of the dying leaves that fringed the path)

Took me of Mrs. Thompson's true address;

What was the actual site?" I murmured, "Bless!

I had it in my bath.

"I knew it all the morning; I could swear

I nursed it when I started, unforgot; Yonder is 92 Carnaryon Square,

A fine commodious house: she might live there.

She might, but she did not.

I flushed Carnaryon Avenue, I clomb Carnaryon Hill, I ventured to ex-

Carnaryon Flats, imperious pleasure dome

Where Alf, the sacred porter, stood at home

Behind his burnished door.

So hour by hour I trod the mazy round, And mild policemen watched compassionate

As gravel sweep on gravel sweep I ground,

And servants bade me bootlessly rebound

From gate to clanging gate.

On half a score of bells I smote amain, From half a score of mansions turned to flee:

Where'er Carnarvon wove its winding

(Except Carnarvon Terrace), racked with pain

I trumpeted for tea.

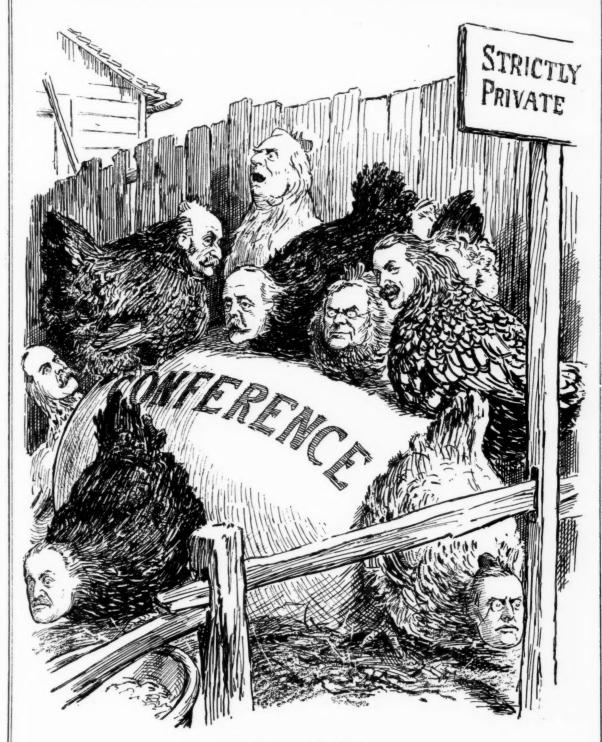
This was a month agone, and time does fly;

Therefore I've penned these verses of regret.

Hoping that, if they chance to catch her eye,

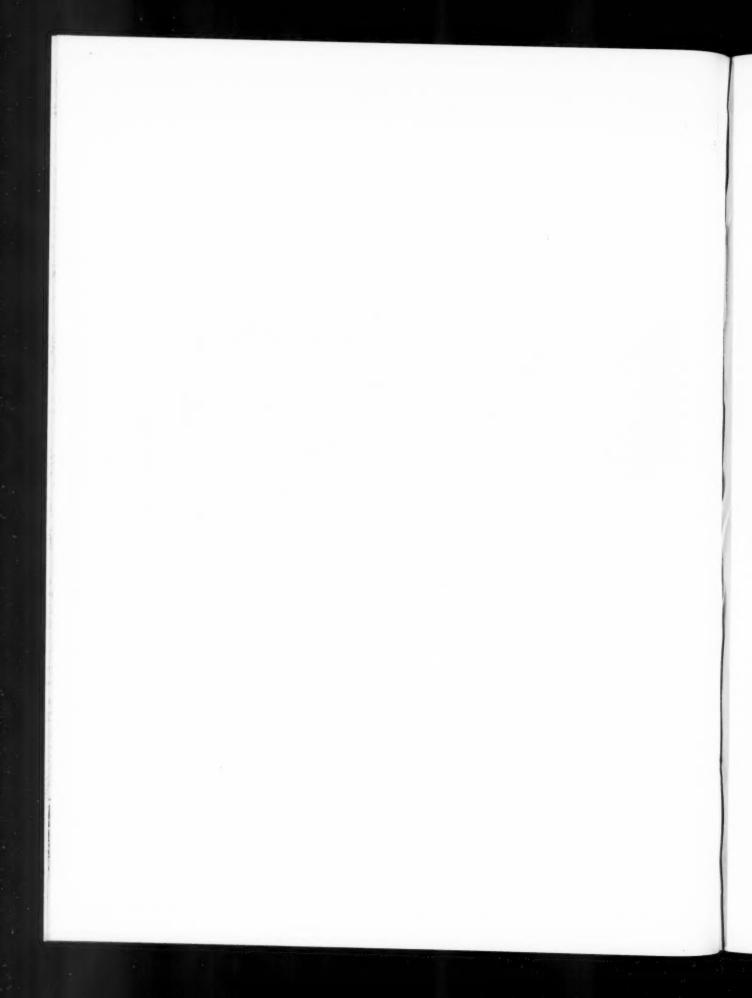
I have not called there yet.

EVOE.



THE SITTERS.

LEADING FOWL. "STICK TO IT, ALL! ONLY ONE WEEK MORE!"





SOME MORE HOPEFUL "CONFERENCES." No. II.-MISTRESS AND MAID.

WE FEEL CONFIDENT THAT THE NATURAL ENEMIES DEPICTED ABOVE MIGHT ALSO FIND MUCH COMMON GROUND, AND ARRIVE AT A SETTLEMENT OF MANY OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS. (WHETHER THE "FOLLOWERS" OF ANY OF THE "PARTIES" CONCERNED WOULD BE SATISFIED IS ANOTHER MATTER.)

OUR PRIZE NOVEL IN TABLOID.

Messrs. Boomer & Boomer have pleasure in presenting a tabloid version of their £125 Prize Mystery Novel, by Mr. "Guy Cliffe-Warwick," a young author hitherto unknown to fame. It will be observed by the extracts from reviews which they quote that no their representative called on Mr. Cliffe-Warwick at his combined room the peculiar attribute of great men. ("The style is brisk and exhilarating."
"This is a bit of all right," he said,
"for I was just on my uppers. Please.

Turning into Frognal Gardens, she "for I was just on my uppers. Please don't cross the cheque." We predict stopped. A mischievous gleam came I have been waiting for for years. a triumphant career for the latest into her eyes. Was not that the studio Little star," and he gazed up into the comer in successful fiction.

RED PAINT.

A Mystery Novel by Guy Cliffe-Warwick. CHAPTER THE FIRST.

The Light in the Studio.

Hermia Hemstitch passed quickly out of Hampstead Town Hall, and without a moment's hesitation directed hack for the Corinthians—a man inher steps towards Frognal Gardens. deed! ("Full of grip and go."—The author of recent years has received a Her home did not lie there, but tonight she was mad—mad! The blood burned in her veins. She was sick of the subscription dance, sick of the model." And without waiting for a heartier welcome from the Press. When night she was mad-mad! The blood near Battersea Park, to inform him of the result of the competition, the young clerks in made-up ties who reply she brushed past him and entered asked her if she rinked. She thought the studio. novelist expressed himself with the nothing of the youth to whom she had engaging terseness that seems to be promised the fourth extra. Pah!

There was a light in it. Ah! Running swiftly down the gravel path, she knocked at the door. A rattle of bolts and chains, and it was opened by Dedrick himself, a fair-haired giant of twenty-one, if as much. Squarely built, he still found time to play three-quarter-Gentlewoman.)

For a moment the athlete-artist stood amazed. Then a happy smile crept up from under his golden moustache.

of Dedrick Dauber, the youthful R.A.? blue dome of the heavens, "I thank

hero."--Newcastle Chronicle.)

CHAPTER THE SECOND. " Who steals my purse steals trash."

Coming back from the subscription ball at 2 p.m., Mrs. Cateye-Smith, with the Misses Cateye-Smith, those plain and elderly virgins, were passing through Frognal Gardens when Letitia Cateye-Smith grasped her mother's tulle sleeve. "Mother!" she gasped. "My dear—how you frightened me!" "Look!"

All three looked. There, coming along the gravel path of Dedrick Dauber's residence, was a well-known figure -that of Hermia Hemstitch, the girl all the men were mad about. They held their breath. Hermia, on reaching the pavement, picked up her skirts and ran. She had not seen them. The three ladies looked at each other. Oh, what a scandal for Hampstead! Chuckling with glee, they hurried home. ("The frailties of human nature are laid bare on his canvas with an unsparing brush."-Church Times.)

> CHAPTER THE THIRD. By whose hand?

We must return to the hour of 1.30 A.M. P.C. Bigboots ("His work is punctuated with a delicate and lively wit"-Daily Chronicle), passing through Frognal Gardens on his nightly rounds, suddenly stopped, and, stooping down, shone the light of his bull'seve lantern upon a form that lay still and mute on the pavement in a pool of blood. It was that of a portly, wellpreserved gentleman of fifty. "Murder!" muttered P.C. Bigboots. By the corpse lay

Still saying nothing, P.C. Bigboots was stifling. retired to rest. After a day or two his silence. London was in a fever done it? At length, slowly, almost re- was just concluding his summing-up. luctantly, P.C. Bigboots produced the incriminating handkerchief—and was glancing at the jury, "we come to have some myself." (Laughter.) promptly dismissed from the Force. what seems to be the most incrimina-

thee." ("If there is one person we Too late, they went to find Dauber. ting part of the evidence: Why did like more than his heroine, it is his He had vanished, and a large To Let Hermia Hemstitch visit Dedrick Dau-

> CHAPTER THE LAST. The Verdict.

board leaned drunkenly over his garden ber at midnight? We have heard that railings. But Hermia had been seen, men called at her residence and enclosed there? Gentlemen, I will now dismiss her wrists in bracelets of the kind that you to consider your verdict.' harbour no jewels and rarely find their

PLEASE DRIVE

ABLE AND WILLING.

a handkerchief. He examined it. It pletion. ("He has a masterly grip men. ("We found it impossible to put bore the name of "Dauber." "Now," of the English language."—British the book down until we had turned the said P.C. Bigboots, "what would Weekly.) The atmosphere of that last page."-Leeds Mercury.) When Olmes do?" He considered. "Say ancient fane can generally be cut with I came to myself I was in a small nothing." He put the handkerchief a knife, but now it was more so. ("His in his pocket, blew his whistle, and with the help of two other constables Rock.) Heavy, sulphurous clouds hung conveyed the body to the mortuary, in yellow masses overhead. The air

he began to have misgivings about Hermia Hemstitch. ("I love, oh, I love, how I love the girl!"-JAMES about the murder. Who could have Douglas in The Star.) The judge

she was seen to leave his studio at two and late that night two heavily-built in the morning. What was she doing

But at that moment a shout rang way to Attenborough's. ("Abounds in picturesque touches."—Standard.) through the court. "Hear me. I will be heard!" Stalwart policemen, be heard!" Stalwart policemen, boxers most of them, fell back like corn before the sickle, and a strange figure burst on the vision of judge, The Old Bailey was crowded to re- jury and spectators. "Hear me, my

lord! I am Dedrick Dauber! (" A graphic story." - Wexford Examiner.)

Dauber! A thrill ran through the court. Dauber!

White as death, unkempt and with bloodshot eyes, the young artist was assisted into the witness-box. "Now," said the judge, "what have you to say, Mr. Dauber?"

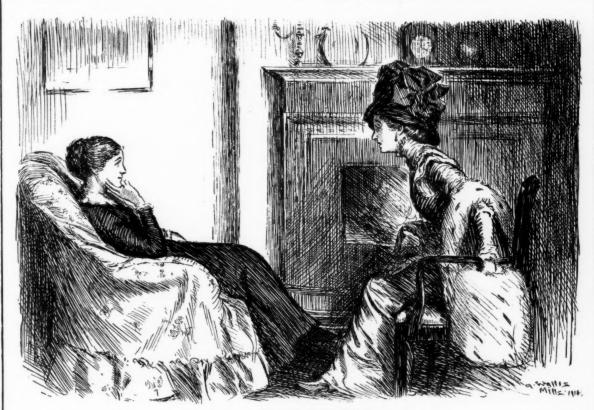
"I will tell you." He pulled at his collar. "Tell you." He gazed round the court. His eyes met Hermia's. "Remember my reputation," hers seemed to say. ("You must read this book, dear."-" Madge" in Truth.)

"My lord, I had been working late, finishing one of my Academy pictures, when there came a knock at my studio door. I opened it. There stood Miss Hemstitch. ("Thrills you." -Southport Visitor.) 'Come! she cried. 'Something has happened!' I followed her. On the pavement without lay the body of a man, bleeding and insensible. 'Stanch the blood,' I said to Miss Hem-stitch, handing her my hand-kerchief, 'and wait here,' and I ran up the road to fetch a doctor. Hardly had I turned the corner when I was seized, bound, drugged, and placed in a motor-car by three masked

breaking the bars."
"Who could have been guilty of In the dock, pale but composed, sat this gross outrage on an unoffending man?" exclaimed the judge.

"That," said Dauber, with emotion, "may be shown anon. A successful man always has enemies.'

"As for Miss Hemstitch," continued



A TRUE FRIEND.

Hostess. "I'M SO SORRY TO HEAR THAT YOU AND GLADYS HAVE QUARRELLED." Her Dearest Friend. "Yes, darling, and it's all about you. She said that you were mean and untruthful; that you flirted outrageously with Jack Rakes; but, when she said that you had your clothes made by a small local dressmaker, well! I really couldn't stand that!"

Dauber, "she, of course, terrified by my non-return, must have retreated into the studio, leaving my handkerchief behind her. After the body had been found and removed by the constable-I have read an account of the case in this morning's paper—she, I take it, emerged from the studio and hurried home, and it was then that she must have been observed. . ("Worthy to rank with Gaboriau himself."—Publishers' Circular.)

"Thank you, Mr. Dauber, that will do," said the judge.

As Dedrick stepped out of the witness-box he glanced at Hermia. Her slow smile assured him that he had done well.

"My lord," said the foreman of the jury, who did not trouble to leave the box, "we find the prisoner Nor GUILTY.

"A very proper verdict," said the judge. ("Has evidently made a close study of our elaborate legal system."-The Dundee News-Letter.)

EPILOGUE.

Three weeks later Dedrick and Hermia were seated at dinner at the Lord Warden Hotel, Dover. The lights shone softly; the wine gleamed golden. Dedrick lifted his glass of liqueur to his lips.
"A toast," he said.

She smiled at him ravishingly.

"To the corpse that brought us together." -(" Cliffe-Warwick is a nut." Lotinga's Weekly.)

THE END.

From the "etiquette" column of The

"EMBARRASSED.—It was a foolish thing to have done. You should have quietly transferred it from your mouth to your spoon and placed it upon the edge of your plate without attracting notice. To have left the table would have been very disconcerting to your host and hostess, and have given rise to the impression that you were suddenly taken ill."

soup?

The Simple Life in Germany.

From the Tariff of a Hamburg hotel:-

"Tea or Coffee with breath and butter, M. 1.50." This must be the waiter's breath down your neck.

Municipal Candour.

"The Board trusted that in view of the fact that all the sewage has to be pumped at considerable cost, every effort will be made to discover and make good leaky sewers or joints wherever it is receible to deep." wherever it is possible to do so."

No.th Berks Herald.

"In Norway . . . widowers must not remarry until six months after the deaths of their widows."—The Colonist (B.C.).

They have very arbitrary laws in Norway.

"Wanted to purchase, second-hand skeleton (male); good condition; p.ice, particulars, and where seen."—The Glasgow Hera.d.

What was it-a black-beetle in the No first-hand or living skeletons need apply.

THE REALLY SUCCESSFUL WITS.

Scene-A Court of Law.

Counsel. My lord, I appear for the plaintiffs, who contend that the defendant firm has infringed their copyright. The Judge. A case of copy-wrong

(laughter).

Counsel. So I hope to show, if your lordship will permit me. To continue, the plaintiff firm acquired, in 1908, the sole right in the music for a play entitled The Red Lobster. This, as you probably are aware, was a great success.

The Judge. It always gives me indigestion (laughter).

Counsel. Among the musical numbers

was a waltz air.

The Judge. Ah, you should take this case to the Appeal Court. That's where

they reverse (laughter).

Counsel. A few weeks after the plaintiffs had issued this, under the title The Red Lobster Waltz, the defendants L'Homard Rouge-

The Judge. Is there an interpreter in

court? (laughter)-

Counsel. Which, I need hardly inform your lordship, means the same thing.

The Judge. Yes, but in French. They took French leave, in fact (laughter).

Counsel. And not only was the title the same, but the music also. If your lordship will examine the copies of the two waltzes which I have here, you will see .

The Judge. Help! (Laughter.) What

are these little dots?

Counsel. Those are notes, my lord. The Judge. They're not like my notes (laughter). And what are these lines?

Counsel. Those are bars, my lord. The Judge. Ah! (laughter) and what

is this mark?

Counsel. That is a rest, my lord. The Judge. A rest in a bar. (Laughter.) A very pleasant thing too (more laughter). By no means confined to

musicians (loud laughter). [And so on.]

Scene -A Class Room.

The Schoolmaster. Now th ., Peters, in what year did the Wars of the Roses begin?

Peters. In 13-

The Schoolmaster. Yes, yes.

Peters. In 13-

The Schoolmaster. It seems to be an unlucky number (laughter). Peters is not Panning out very well (laughter). You, Lucas. Look as quick as you can. (Laughter.)

Lucas. 1448.

The Schoolmaster, Better. In whose reign was it. Tate?

Tate. Henry the Fifth.

The Schoolmaster. I must have a tête-à-tête with you about this. (Laughter.) In whose reign? Think again. Tate. Henry the Sixth.

The Schoolmaster. In whose reign? Say Henry the Seventh. (Laughter.) Tate. Henry the Seventh.

The Schoolmaster. No. As it happens you were right the time before. overshot the mark, and I must now give you a bad one. (Polite laughter.) [And so on.]

Scene-A Music Hall.

wives what they have brought with contemporary record a vivid picture of them - (laughter) - listen to this! Before I married I thought I could eat my wife. (Laughter.) I wish now I had. (Roars of laughter.) When I got home at three a.m. this morning published a waltz, under the title my old woman met me at the door. "How dare you walk home at this time," she said. "I daren't," I said, "I was carried." (Laughter.) Girls -(screams)-girls, I say, listen to this. I met a man yesterday who said, "I see your wife's back from Brighton." said, "Yes, she will wear such low necks." (Renewed screams.)

[And so on.]

A FISH OUT OF WATER.

[N.B.—This may be taken either as a joke or, if that fails, as an allegory, to be applied to any English system of education, according to the taste of the reader.]

I CAUGHT a herring long ago, And kept him in some H.O.;

I strained his water every day, Till all the salt was strained away;

And so I taught the little chap To live in water from the tap. Robbed of his customary brine

He had to face a fresh design. Each afternoon I took about A thimbleful of water out,

Till-though his needs were always small-

He got along with none at all.

Gentle of heart and soft of roe. He followed where I chose to go.

One day he took a walk with me Upon the pier at Brightlingsea;

Alack! he made a reckless bound, Slipped through a grating and was drowned.

Commercial Candour.

"The Years come and go, but our watches do not go." - Adet. of a Bombay Firm.

"DIZZY."

"GENTLEMEN, if there be anything on which I pique myself it is my

consistency."

Thus young DISRAELI opened his address to the electors of Taunton, coming out in Tory colours, having thrice essayed to win his way to the House of Commons as a Radical. The assertion is delightfully Disraelian in its audacity. Any other man in similar circumstances would have evaded the topic. Dizzy seized it by the neck, dragged it into the very front of the fray, and of what his adversaries trumpeted as his chief delinquency made his especial merit.

In the Life of Disraeli (JOHN Low Comedian. Men, and other men's MURRAY), Mr. MONYPENNY rescues from the Candidate. "His face was lividly pale, and from beneath two finely arched evebrows blazed a pair of intensely black eyes. His physiognomy was strictly Jewish. Over a broad high forehead were ringlets of coalblack glossy hair, which, combed away from his right temple, fell in luxuriant clusters or bunches over his left cheek and ear, which it entirely concealed from view. He was very showily attired in a dark bottle-green frock-coat, a waistcoat of a most extravagant pattern, the front almost covered with glittering chains, and in fancy-pattern

pantaloons."

Such was the wondrous boy who descended upon London society and political life in the third decade of the nineteenth century, and, unaided by family connection, unendowed with wealth, handicapped by alien birth, won his way to the inner circle of one and the premier place in the ranks of the other. Dealing with this epoch of his hero's life, Mr. MONYPENNY has not much in the way of new or exclusive information to proffer. With the exception of quotations from a diary fitfully kept, he is chiefly dependent upon material long ago given to the public. But by skilful arrangement he presents a picture of Disraeli in the extravagance of his youth, the budding power of his manhood, that goes far beyond anything hitherto accessible. Better than the diary are the young man's letters to his father and sister, in which, confident of his audience, he prattled about his conquests with endearing frankness.

When, on their publication, I read these, I wondered whether it were possible that with his waistcoats, his chains, his curls and his cane, Dizzy did really make the favourable impression upon acquaintances and onlookers he taught his fond sister to believe. At



POPULAR SAYINGS ILLUSTRATED.-II.

"THOSE WHO DANCE MUST PAY THE PIPER."

Malta, for example, whither he went, in the triumphal progress to Con-Gibraltar to his feet, he writes to his offspring and have gained great fame on a barb." in repeating his third-rate stories at second-hand. We [himself and CLAY, a fellow passenger] are both equally popular." He tells an inane story of how, a racket-ball falling at his feet as oiled and curled mask this book enables he watched the game, he picked it up, and, "observing a young rifleman excessively stiff, humbly requested him bition, ever labouring to achieve an to forward its passing into the court as I really had never thrown a ball in my life." "This incident," he adds, "has been the general subject of conversation at all the messes to-day.'

What they really said may be guessed from an extract from Sir WILLIAM GREGORY'S autobiography quoted by Mr. Monypenny. "He lest he might be "nabbed" by sheriff's made himself so hateful to the officers, he kept this goal ever in view, mess that while they welcomed CLAY and in time—a long time—won it. they ceased to invite that damned bumptious Jew boy."

after bringing garrison society at stantinople, where the young Sybarite "courted the air in a carved caïque father, "They [certain officers] have by shores which are a perpetual scene. been long expecting your worship's finding no exertion greater than a canter

This is the puppet Dizzy, a disguise deliberately assumed in deference to the observation that "affectation tells even better than wit." Beneath the Beneath the us to see at work the real DISRAELI, conscious of genius, consumed by amend determined upon whilst still a stripling. "What do you want?" asked a powerful friend interested in his personality, ready to assist him with some small patronage. "I want to be Prime Minister," said the youth. Prostrated by illness, overwhelmed with debt, fearing to go out to dinner

Mr. Monypenny's narrative does not bring DISRAELI into the House of Comnever heard of this particular incident threshold, just returned for Maidstone. end; he might have saved the try.

The prelude to the story presented by this masterly volume succeeds in investing with fresh interest the most fascinating figure in the political life of the nineteenth century.

TOBY, M.P.

The Dickens:

"Dante is not a byword, but the name of a great Italian religious poet."—Answer to Correspondent in "The Weekly Dispatch."

So the instruction of the masses goes

"He must have felt rather like the unfortunate victim of a similar demonstration of affection in 'The Walrus and the Carpenter'

Perhaps it was right to dissemble your love, But-why did you kick me downstairs ? Carlisle Journal.

Which, if you remember, was what the youngest oyster said.

"Lambert converted the second try with a fine kick. In the meanwhile J. G. M. Gotto had put the finishing touch to some good play on the part of the Cambridge right wing by scoring a try in a good position."—The Times. They should certainly have waited for Sister "Sa" and the fond parent mons. It leaves him standing on the LAMBERT to get finished at the other



IMPROBABLE SCENES .- VI.

AN ACTOR-MANAGER TAKING AN UNIMPORTANT RÔLE.

[The Actor-Manager is marked with a x]

OUR BOOKING-OFFICE.

(By Mr. Punch's Staff of Learned Clerks.)

The Finer Grain (METHUEN) is a volume for which I have been, these many years, hoping against hope-a bare announcement of this fact is not of itself enough to send you flying hot-footed to the booksellers, I will add that the stories (there are five of them) are every one entirely worthy of the James of the best period. Personally, out of the five, I should select, as having given me most pleasure, The Velvet Glove and A Round of Visits (hark to the very sound of them! Have they not, these titles, the true Jacobean ring?) Of course no one will expect the contents of the book to be "stories" at all, in adventures they recount are always rather of the mind than the body. The meaning, indeed, of The Finer Grain is explained by the author himself, in a phrase that gives the clue to the whole, as implying "a peculiar accessibility to surprise, to curiosity, to mystification, or attraction," in short, and comprehensively, the precise Henry James attitude towards life. It is exactly this which gives the book its own delicate and subtle charm; which, moreover, makes detailed criticism of it a blundering and impossible thing. I can only record the rare pleasure that it has given me; and my congratulations to author and public.

is not infrequently carried away by its conceit. Credit is get on with his Differential Calculus.

therefore due to Mr. J. C. SNAITH for having created a monarchy and yet, in dealing with the royal personages of his imagination, maintained an excellent sense of proportion and the ridiculous. In "Illyria" there were three strong wills, which clashed. There was the king, who was for monarchy in general and the enthronement of his volume of new short stories by Mr. Henry James. If the daughter in particular. There was the daughter, who agreed with the abstract principle but opposed the concrete instance. There was the people, who demanded a republic. But there is more here than the alarums and excursions of a smaller European state, so familiar in latter-day novels as almost to be wearisome. The trouble begins when the Princess, morganatically married to the English commoner of her choice, rides incognita over English hounds and resents with imperial completeness the chastisement of the M.F.H. Of the domestic upheaval among the followers the ordinary acceptance of the term, though in at least one of that pack and the international complications caused of them something, disconcertingly, does happen; the by "Illyrian" developments, you can have no idea unless you read Mrs. Fitz (SMITH, ELDER). You will be well advised in resorting to that authority. It is not denied that the book has its faults of detail, but, if it is faults you are after, you must find them for yourself. By the time you have finished your search you will discover only

Get On or Get Out.

that you have forgotten the object of it.

"For the first seven years of Porfirio's life he went to the village school, but he felt he wasn't learning enough, so, with wonderful force of character, he set about earning small sums, which he set aside to enable him to get a better education."—Howe, Ch. it.

When Fiction conceives a little kingdom of its own, it We picture to ourselves Porfirio at six, simply spoiling to